

## Mt. Pulaski Times-News

MT. PULASKI, ILLINOIS

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HARRY J. WIBLE, Editor and Publisher

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Thursday, November 24, 1932

### LET'S COUNT THE BLESSING

The institution of our American Thanksgiving Day dates back almost to the beginnings of the settlement of North America by newcomers from Europe. The first Thanksgiving Day was celebrated by the Pilgrims of Plymouth in 1623. After a day of prayer and fasting the Pilgrims feasted and gave thanks to Almighty God for the bountiful harvest which enabled them to look forward to a winter of ample food.

All of the New England colonies and some of the others continued this custom of an annual day of thanksgiving, and in his first year as the first President of the United States of America George Washington himself made Thanksgiving Day a national feast by proclaiming Thursday, November 26, 1789, as the day for its celebration.

There has never been a year since, in spite of wars, internal stress and calamity in which we, the people of the United States of America, have not had genuine occasion to give thanks for blessings received. For in spite of all that has occurred in our history the American spirit has never been daunted and we have grown steadily in spiritual strength.

In this year of 1932 we see many things to be thankful for. We have come through the three most trying years we have experienced in more than half a century. We have come through them safely, with far less suffering, far less permanent injury to our national institutions and our national welfare than have any of the other peoples of the world. On every hand there is evidence so plain that all can see that the worst is past, and that we are coming again into material prosperity with renewed courage and with our national moral still unshaken.

That, it seems to us, is sufficient reason why Thanksgiving Day this year should be more than a mere holiday, why it should be a day upon which every American should actually give thanks to the God he worships for having led us safely thru the slough of despond to the verge of the promised land again.

### Convention of Champion Boys and Girls

The very pick of the finest specimens of the best products of farms of America are gathered in Chicago this week. We do not refer particularly to the magnificent specimens of horses, cattle, sheep and swine which are competing for blue ribbons at the International Live Stock Exposition which opens on November 26th and continues until December 3rd. Splendid as these examples of the best products of American husbandry are, they are of trifling consequence compared with the boys and girls of the 4-H Clubs who are competing at Chicago for the national championships in their particular fields of endeavor.

These boys and girls chosen for the annual 4-H Congress by a process of elimination are the finest specimens of American youth which their respective states have produced. They are the hope of our nation's future. They are the ones who will become the solid, substantial citizens of tomorrow. Their destiny is to become themselves leaders in their communities, their counties and their states, and to become fathers and mothers of a generation which carry the development of agriculture and of rural life to higher and better planes than it has even yet reached.

We know of no organization or movement which has contributed so much to the present welfare and future prosperity of our nation than the 4-H Clubs. They serve the double purpose of elevating the economic standards of the farmer, and at the same time of developing in farm life higher standards of culture, of beauty and of contentment.

These young state champions assembled at Chicago have already learned how to get the greatest amount of happiness and satisfaction out of life on the farm.

### FOUR FARM PROBLEMS

C. O. Moser, President of the National Cooperative Council and Vice-President of the American Cotton Cooperative Association, recently pointed out that the prosperity of the farmer depends upon four things:

1. The cost of his production.
2. The volume of his production.
3. The price he obtains for what he produces.
4. The price he pays for what he buys.

As Mr. Moser observed, the first two are largely the problems of the individual. The next two are mainly the problems of the farmer as a group. They are the reason for being of the cooperative movement.

No single farmer, dealing with a large buying or selling organization, can have a voice in price. He must take what he is offered or lose the business. When he joins with thousands of other farmers whose problems and hopes are one with his, the shoe is on the other foot. The buying or selling organization has met its equal—and the price is much more likely to be a fair one.

No cooperative, of course, can raise prices to the desired level in times like these. What they can do to keep them higher than they would otherwise be and prepare the groundwork for future achievements. All over the country the cooperative movement is making gains, both in strength and membership, and the results are beginning to show. When the economic clouds finally clear, an organized agriculture can be ready for a period of prosperity unprecedented in this century.

The best friend of "hard times" is a high tax rate.

Reasonable taxes encourage the investment of capital, the development and expansion of industry, the employment of labor. They encourage home building, savings and business activity of all kinds.

Excessive taxes, on the other hand, have precisely the opposite effect. They drive money into hoarding or into tax-free government bonds, thus depriving industry of revenue it sorely needs. They make for unemployment and for widespread economic distress. They discourage the home builder. They cause property to be taken over by the county or state for unpaid taxes, where it at once becomes unproductive.

Make no mistake about it, high taxation, whether by the federal government, or states, counties or municipalities, has had much to do with creating and prolonging hard times. Every business man in the United States knows that. So does every investor. So should every worker. The best influence in favor of good times would be a decisive cut in the cost of government and the elimination of bureaucratic waste, red tape and inefficiency. And the best place to begin is right in your own home town, county or state. The tax bill is fast becoming the barometer of economic conditions.

### THE WAY OF LIFE

By Bruce Barton

#### THE SOCIABLE MAN

A wicked falsehood has come down thru the ages.

It reappeared in an English book as recently as 1925. The author, in describing a visit to the high spirited Lord Fisher, tells of finding him less jovial than usual. Obviously something was weighing on his mind, and he soon revealed it.

"You know that Pilate was succeeded as Governor of Jerusalem by Lentulus," he remarked in dull tones. . . The new Governor gave a minute description of Jesus, concluding with the statement, "Nobody has ever seen him laugh."

With that wretched remark Lord Fisher lapsed into meditative silence. He wanted to be reverent; he had been well grounded in the traditions of his church; he would do his duty as a Christian and an Englishman, no matter what the cost. But to worship a Lord who never laughed—it was a strain. Lord Fisher made no pretense about that.

The quotation from Lentulus is a forgery, penned by an unknown impostor in a later century; yet how persistently it has lived, and with what tragic thoroughness it has done its work. How many millions of happy-minded folk, when they have thought of Jesus at all, have had a feeling of uneasiness. "Suppose," they have said, "he were to enter the room and find us laughing and enjoying ourselves! When there is so much suffering and sin in the

world, is it right to be happy? What would Jesus say? . . ."

With such compunctions cheerful folk have had their brighter moments tintured. The friendliest man who ever lived has been shut off by a black wall of tradition from those whose friendship he would most enjoy. Theology has reared a graven image, and robbed the world of the joy and laughter of the great companion.

It is not hard to understand when you remember the character of the early theologians. They lived in sad days; they were men of introspection, to whom every simple thing was symbolic of some hidden mystery; and life, itself, a tangle of philosophic formulae.

Baffled by the death of Jesus, they rejected the splendid truth, and fashioned a creed instead. Lambs were put to death in the Temple, as a sacrifice for the sins of the worshippers; ergo, Jesus was the lamb of God. His death had been planned from the beginning of the world; the human race was hopelessly wayward; God knew that it would be and nothing would turn Him from His vindictive purpose to destroy it but the sacrifice of an innocent Son.

Thomas Paine remarked truly that no religion can be really divine which has in it any doctrine that offends the sensibilities of a little child. Is there any reader of these articles whose childish sensibilities were not shocked when the traditional explanation of the death of Jesus was first poured into his ears? Would any human father, loving his children, have sentenced all to death, and been persuaded to commute the sentence only by the suffering of his best beloved?

Small wonder that the Jesus of such a doctrine was supposed never to have laughed!

### French's Chapel

French's Chapel Vicinity, Nov. 23.—Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Haak and Ernie Haak visited near Elkhart Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Hugo Baumhardt. Mr. and Mrs. Edgar E. French motored to Mt. Pulaski Sunday afternoon and visited her sister, Mrs. Alma Harper.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Larson motored to Sweetwater Sunday and visited Mr. and Mrs. Harold Henrichson, Mrs. Mary Henrichson and Miss Bertha Henrichson.

Mr. and Mrs. Dick Daniels visited near Emden Sunday with relatives. Mrs. Edgar E. French was a guest of Mrs. Charles Wood Tuesday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Shelby French were Sunday evening callers at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Larson.

Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Haak and family, of Burtonview, and Mr. and Mrs. James Douglas, of New Holland, were guests Sunday of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Haak.

Mrs. Harry Larson was in Lincoln last Friday and attended the semi-annual meeting of the Logan County Teachers' Association.

Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Rickards, living west of Mt. Pulaski, were Sunday visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Edgar E. French.

Mr. and Mrs. Shelby French visited kinsfolk in Lincoln Sunday.

The Read-Honey Hook Community Club met at the Read school house last Friday evening, November 18th. A short program was given, being in charge of Mrs. Harry Larson, Mrs. Abe Boughan and David C. Humphreys. Cup cakes and fruit salad were served by Mrs. David C. Humphreys, Mrs. Shelby French and Harry Larson.

The annual Thanksgiving supper will be held in the basement of the church Thursday evening.

### MORTALITY IN ILLINOIS HITS NEW LOW MARK

Springfield, Ill.—That 1932 will show the lowest death rate ever recorded in Illinois is apparent in the records of the State Department of Public Health. The mortality rate from all causes, and for a number of specific diseases, including tuberculosis, is exceptionally low, according to a statement issued by the department.

Mortality in Illinois during September, the last month for which the reports are in, was decidedly lower than that in any other month up to that time this year, while the cumulative mortality for the first nine months was at the lowest rate for any corresponding period since reliable records have been kept, according to the statement. During the first nine months of this year, 61,164 deaths occurred in the state against 66,314 in the corresponding period of 1931, a decline of 5,150, or an average of reduction of 18 per cent. The annual mortality rate per 1,000 population was 10.5 for the first nine months of this year compared with 11.5 for the first nine months of 1931, a decline of nearly 9 per cent.

Marked decline took place in the mortality from pneumonia, measles, scarlet fever, diphtheria, influenza, infantile paralysis, cerebro-spinal meningitis and tuberculosis.

Infant mortality was also down by a wide margin, giving the state an all-time low record for a period of nine months.

## The Family Doctor

By John Joseph Gaines, M. D.

### CARE OF THE AGED

At this writing I have eight people under my care who are over eighty years of age—six men and two women. All but two of them are on foot; one woman has had a "stroke" but can get about and help herself. She is 85. The other is just past eighty, and has a sprained hip, using crutches to go about her house. One old man, 86, is a veteran of the civil war; another will be 88 at his next birthday.

It is interesting to watch these old boys and girls, who have somehow come mighty close to living the right way, else they could not have achieved all these years with success; I meet many of half their ages who really complain more than they do.

And they know just a little more about what is good for them to eat than I do. I never put them on a diet, except to ask them to eat what "agrees" with them. If I caught one old fellow eating salted peanuts and topping off with ice cream, I would not stop him. If one has diabetes, I do not by any means cut off a reasonable amount of sugar from his dietary. I have always been a stickler for letting well enough alone.

One of them—just went out my door this moment—has a leg ulcer. I keep DRY dressings applied while it heals nicely. He laughs over the situation, not at all like a much younger man would do.

And, my old people are so appreciative; they make one love them. They have lived all these years, I have no doubt, on that very principle. The fellow who is eternally finding fault is in a poor way to live out a long and beautiful existence, because he burns up the good within him. We younger ones may learn from this.

### HOME BUILDING IN THE UNITED STATES INCREASING

Home building is on the increase in America, the United States Building and Loan League reported in Chicago Monday, and indications are that "the public is convinced that now is the time to build." During September, the report said, loans were made for home construction to the amount of \$3,399,633, an increase of nearly \$1,000,000 over July. At the same time, loans for purchasing homes increased by \$1,500,000, and refinancing decreased almost \$5,000,000.

Doctor:—"Your husband must have absolute quiet. Here is a sleeping draught."

Wife:—"When do I give it to him?"

Doctor:—"You don't, you take it yourself."

### Dr. Paul B. Berryhill

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